

Against the Grain

Volume 23 | Issue 3

Article 3

June 2011

Letters to the Editor

Katina Strauch

Against the Grain, kstrauch@comcast.net

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Recommended Citation

Strauch, Katina (2011) "Letters to the Editor," *Against the Grain*: Vol. 23: Iss. 3, Article 3.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.5881>

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From Your (chocolate loving) Editor:

The PTBs (powers that be) say that chocolate is good for you. Dark chocolate. Of course I love milk chocolate. But milk chocolate must be better for you than, say, fried chicken or French fries. While eating chocolate, a group of us have been working on *Against the Grain*. This issue is guest edited by the amazing **Xan Arch** who has collected articles from **Robert Johnson**, **Jason Price**, **Peter Spitzform**, **Michael Levine-Clark**, **Rick Anderson** and **Sandy Thatcher**, **Emily McElroy** and **Susan Hinken**, and **Rebecca Seger** and **Lenny Allen**. We are lucky enough with this issue to have interviews with **Phoebe Ayers**, and **Deborah Kahn**. **Tony Ferguson** is still giving us words of wisdom in **Back Talk**. Meanwhile **Michael Pelikan** takes on "mobile," **Bob Nardini** talks about competition, **Jesse Holden** discovers apps, **Donna Jacobs** discovers cheese and *In-*

dependent People, **Bryan Carson** straightens us out on **Righthaven**, **William Rieders** looks beyond eTextbooks, **Bob Holley** mourns the death of the journal, and **Scott Smith** considers much ado about PDA. **Lolly Gasaway** has been asked about film snippets and yearbooks, while **Steven Douglas** and **Michelle Flinchbaugh** address issues in establishing digital repositories. And, of course this is just the tip of the iceberg! Happy Reading!



Plus, I have to tell you, that a lot of what we didn't have room to print is in the online **ATG**, located at www.against-the-grain.com/.

Guess I will take a break now and have some chocolate ice cream. And, for those of you who may happen by, I have a cache of all kinds of chocolates in my office. Meantime, have a great summer!

Much Love, Yr. Ed. 🐼

Letters to the Editor

Send letters to <kstrauch@comcast.net>, phone or fax 843-723-3536, or snail mail: *Against the Grain*, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409. You can also send a letter to the editor from the **ATG Homepage** at <http://www.against-the-grain.com>.

Dear Editor:

I'm writing to correct an error in **Mark Y. Herring's** piece, "Can Open Access Save Us?" from the Dec. 2010-Jan. 2011 issue. **Herring** makes the point in passing that "by definition, open-access archives and/or journals do not provide scholarly vetting (peer review)...."

This is not at all what open access is, by definition or in practice. **Herring** quotes **Peter Suber**, but he should have dug deeper. As **Suber** writes, "OA is compatible with peer review, and all the major OA initiatives for scientific and scholarly literature insist on its importance." There are now hundreds (thousands?) of peer-reviewed OA journals. As one example, librarian and scholar **Heather Morrison** found that *PLoS One*, an OA journal from the **Public Library of Science**, published more peer-reviewed articles than any other scholarly journal in 2010.

Katharine Dunn (Projects Librarian, MIT Libraries)
<khdunn@mit.edu> <http://libraries.mit.edu/scholarly> 🐼



AGAINST THE GRAIN DEADLINES VOLUME 23 — 2011-2012

2011 Events	Issue	Ad Reservation	Camera-Ready
Reference Publishing	September 2011	06/27/11	07/18/11
Charleston Conference	November 2011	08/15/11	09/05/11
ALA Midwinter	Dec. 2011/Jan. 2012	10/31/11	11/21/11

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Toni Nix <justwrite@lowcountry.com>; Phone: 843-835-8604; Fax: 843-835-5892; USPS Address: P.O. Box 412, Cottageville, SC 29435; FedEx/UPS ship to: 398 Crab Apple Lane, Ridgeville, SC 29472. 🐼

Rumors from page 1

the **International Association of Scientific, Technical & Medical Publishers (STM)**. In it, STM sets out five guiding principles it believes should be applied in any consideration of document delivery use and services. STM publishers welcome constructive discussion on these principles, and seek participation in wider debates on document delivery.

www.stm-assoc.org

<http://www.against-the-grain.com/2011/06/stm-press-release-on-document-delivery/>

<http://blogs.library.duke.edu/schol-comm/2011/06/09/a-second-front/>

I guess that it is true after all that all good things come to an end. After 12 years of working with **Libraries Unlimited**, **Ron Maas** will be leaving the company due to a reorganization. **Ron** says he has mixed feelings. He has enjoyed his time working with us as wonderful partners, and he hopes we will cross paths somewhere farther down the road. In the meantime, if you have questions about your work with **Libraries Unlimited**, be sure to check in with **Barbara Ittner** <bittner@abc-clio.com> who has been at **LU** longer than **Ron** (she started with the company when **Ron** was 12), and **Ron** says we are in good hands with her and **LU** will continue to be a force for positive change in the markets that we all serve. **Ron** can be reached at <Ronmaas99@gmail.com>, or at his home phone 203-373-9597. If you are on LinkedIn, send **Ron** a connection, and say something nice. He is way too young to retire!

Just back from a fabulous trip! We had the **13th Fiesole Collection Development Retreat** in St. Petersburg, Russia. St. Petersburg is an incredibly historic city. We arrived by train from Helsinki, Finland, to the **Finland Station** where **Lenin** arrived in a sealed train to begin the **Russian Revolution**. We were greeted at the train station by **Fred Lynden** (once head of technical services and scholarly communication at **Brown** and frequent attendee at the **Charleston Conference**) and his lovely and vivacious wife **Irina**, who is Deputy Director General of the **National Library of Russia**. A cruise on the Neva River gave us a look at many famous landmarks and elegant palaces, and I had to pinch myself when we attended a Russian ballet (*Ondine*) at the **Marlinsky Theater**. **Fred** looks great! He could be a poster child for retirement. And so does **Irina** who could be a poster child for working! Hmmm ...Oh! Almost forgot! **The Retreat!** There were many excellent papers given by a host of international librarians, publishers, and vendors. The current *Charleston Report* has some of my favorite quotes from the **Retreat** (see www.charlestonco.com/) but you need a subscription to look at them. Will see what I can do about that! The **Casalini Website** has many of the papers loaded there for your perusal. Next year's **Retreat** is planned for Fiesole, Italy April 12-14, 2012.

<http://www.casalini.it/retreat/>

<http://www.theconferencecircuit.com/2011/05/04/fiesole-retreat-may-11-13/>

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<<http://www.against-the-grain.com>>